Appl. No.: 10/695,155 Patent Art Unit: 1645 51326-00004

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

Amendment to the Drawings:

The attached drawing sheet includes changes to Fig. 13. This sheet replaces the original sheet including Fig. 13. In Fig. 13, improper handwritten labeling of the figure has been corrected.

Attachment:

Replacement Sheet

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this Application and entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-28 are currently pending in this application.

No new matter has been added as a result of the amendments to the specification.

Specification

The first two paragraphs of the specification, the priority statement, have been amended to update the status of all priority applications.

A brief description of Figure 25 has been added on page 28 of the specification.

Page 35, line 18 and page 45, lines 15-33 have been amended to refer to Figure 1A, 1B, 1C, and 1D as 1a, 1b, 1c and 1d.

Page 75, lines 4-29 have been amended to refer to Figures 8A and 8B as 8a and 8b.

Replacement sheets for pages 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22 and 24 are attached hereto to correct improper handwritten underlining.

Page 87, line 11 to page 88, line 1 has been amended to correct a typographical error. The correct term for "afte-F"PB Zr" is "after."

Drawings

Figure 13 has been amended to replace the handwritten labeling. A replacement sheet of Figure 13 is attached hereto.

Double Patenting

Claims 6-10 and 17-28 have been rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-24 of U.S. Patent No. 6,752,993.

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The Examiner has instructed that a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) or § 1.321(d) may be used to overcome a rejection based on non-statutory double patenting ground. Without addressing the propriety of the Examiner's rejection, and specifically the Examiner's interpretation of what the cited references teach or suggest, Applicants respectfully and properly defer addressing the present rejection until there is otherwise allowable subject matter in this application. Only then is it proper to assess the propriety of the Examiner's rejection in view of the potentially allowable claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be held in abeyance until claims 6-10 and 17-28 are allowable in the present application.

Claims 1-5 and 11-16 have been rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-24 of U.S. Patent No. 6,818,223.

The Examiner has instructed that a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) or § 1.321(d) may be used to overcome a rejection based on non-statutory double patenting ground. Without addressing the propriety of the Examiner's rejection, and specifically the Examiner's interpretation of what the cited references teach or suggest, Applicants respectfully and properly defer addressing the present rejection until there is otherwise allowable subject matter in this application. Only then is it proper to assess the propriety of the Examiner's rejection in view of the potentially allowable claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be held in abeyance until claims 1-5 and 11-16 are allowable in the present application.

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Conclusion

Applicant asserts that the claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this Amendment to deposit account No. 50-3207.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 54,124 Customer Number: 45,200

Dated: 4/13/07

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